

## GRIS-ly

A slim, 30-ish Black woman was seated next to me in the library. And on the computer she was using, she used quotes from the Bible. Like, “Oh God, You are my God.” I don’t know, nor didn’t ask, what the purpose of her Word Document was. Was she a Christian? Was it a University paper she was going to submit? Was it for personal reasons, e.g. drugs, sex, or money? Don’t know, didn’t ask. But it got me thinking. When people quote the Bible or any other religious book, they rarely quote or cite any of the more unsavoury or barbaric aspects. How about genocide? Or rape? Or incest? Or slavery? Haven’t heard or thought about it? That’s okay. A preacher, minister, or imam wouldn’t really want to discuss it either. But grab a Bible and be prepared to be blown away by what’s in it.

Wanna commit wholesale genocide?! Who doesn’t?! Am I right?! Wanna rape the crap outta some women? Go to town! Wanna diddle your kid? Have at ‘em! Wanna enslave anyone you want? Get the shackles! Wanna stone an adulterous woman to death? I’ve got my rocks—you get your own! According to the Bible, you can do any or all of it.

But it is grisly. It is gross. These abominable stories are in the Bible. And people think of it as “The Good Book.” Children are taught to believe in this murderous, silly nonsense. Some atheists think that teaching any religious propaganda to kids is akin to abuse. I, also an atheist and critical thinker, wouldn’t go that far but I do understand their point of view.

G.R.I.S. Genocide. Rape. Incest. Slavery.

Incidentally, none of the “G.R.I.S.” is considered a sin. God won’t punish you. Seriously. PLEASE look it up. Use the InterWebs. See for yourself.

We don’t think this way now. Because we know it’s immoral. We’ve evolved.

Whew, and thank God for that. Just kidding.